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FROM: Brussels

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 223, August 10, 1 p.m.

Control: 4592
Rec'd: August 10, 1950
3:50 p.m.

After nine hours session Chamber passed bill for transfer powers at 11 p.m. last night. Vote: yes-165 (Liberals, Socialists, PSC); no-27 (Lahaye-Liberals; 26 PSC, of which 24 Flemish, 2 Brussels); abstained-7 (5 Communists, 2 PSC).

Several PSC deputies stated they would vote for bill with bitterness and resentment feeling decision had been imposed on them, but resigned to necessity supporting Baudouin.

Lahaye (Liberal) asked if any foreign country had exercised pressure on King. Prime Minister denied any such pressure.

Communists abstained because opposed to both Leopold and monarchy. Communist Deputy Terfve strongly attacked Socialists for reaching agreement with PSC and Liberals.

Bill expected pass Senate today and joint session scheduled tomorrow to vote decree putting into effect law for transfer powers and witness Baudouin take oath. Parliament transfer powers from Leopold to Baudouin at moment latter takes oath.

Text of bill as voted by air pouch.

MURPHY

PA LEG

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